

Application No.: 10/684,253

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An interactive table cloth comprising:
a foldable substrate processed to receive chalk on a writing surface thereof and being washable and formed of an oil cloth material that has one face that is processed so that the user can write with chalk thereon and at the same time, the chalk is easily erased therefrom;
a border formed around and attached to a peripheral edge of the substrate, the border being formed of a second material that is different from the oil cloth material; and
a guide that is a permanent part of the writing surface by being attached to the oil cloth material and being indicative of where chalk is to be applied, the guide being formed of a third ~~second~~ material different than the oil cloth ~~first~~ material.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the border is formed of a polymeric material that has a glossy finish on one face.
4. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the border has a pattern formed thereon that is selected from the group consisting of: zigzag, striped, checker board, plaid and geometric.
5. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the border is attached to the peripheral edge of the substrate such that a sealed lip edge is formed around the periphery of the substrate and is defined by a folded section of the border.
6. (Original) The table cloth of claim 5, wherein the border is attached to the peripheral edge of the substrate by a turn down hem stitch.

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7. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the guide comprises indicia that is permanently bonded to the writing surface by a heat transfer process.
8. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the guide has an educational theme.
9. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the guide is in the form of a game board selected from the group consisting of tic-tac-toe, chess, checkers, and hang man.
10. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the border section includes first indicia formed thereon and associated with a first theme which is the same as a theme of the guide printed on the writing surface.
11. (Original) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the guide is in the form of parallel lines to assist the user in practicing writing skills.
12. (Previously Presented) The table cloth of claim 1, wherein the guide is in the form of a music bar to assist the user in practicing writing musical notes or songs.
13. (Previously Presented) An interactive educational kit comprising:
a table cloth including:
a foldable substrate processed to receive chalk on a writing surface thereof and being washable so as to permit erasing of any chalk marks made on the substrate such that the substrate appears substantially new after cleaning, the substrate being formed of an oil cloth material that has one face that is processed so that the user can write with chalk thereon;
a border formed around and attached to a peripheral edge of the substrate, the border being formed of a material that is

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different from the oil cloth; and

a guide disposed on the on the writing surface and being indicative of where a writing medium is to be applied on the writing surface;

a writing implement in the form of the chalk which is of the type that can be transferred onto the writing surface and be freely erased therefrom;

a container that is open at a first end for receiving and holding the table cloth in a rolled condition;

an end plug for holding the writing implement, the end plug being received within the container after the rolled table cloth is received therein so as to close the open first end of the container and secure all contents of the container; and

wherein the border section has a feature formed as an integral part thereof for receiving and holding the writing implement and the container.

14. (Original) The table cloth of claim 13, wherein the guide is formed of a material that permits the guide to be freely removed from the writing surface after it has been laid down and held onto the writing surface.
15. (Original) The table cloth of claim 14, wherein the removable guide comprises one or more static cling decals.
16. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the writing implement comprises two or more pieces of different colors chalk.
17. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 13, further including a spray bottle that holds a liquid for cleaning the writing surface, the spray bottle being received within the container.

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18. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the feature is a pocket that is integrally formed as part of the border section and includes a closed end and an open end for receiving the chalk and the container.
19. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the feature is a hook and loop fastener formed of a pair of pads having one of a hook construction and a loop construction and a strap that is of a sufficient length to extend between the pair of pads and having an opposite construction compared to the pair of pads, wherein the chalk and the container are received between the pair of pads and are held in place against the border section by means of the strap that mates at its ends with the pair of pads.
20. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the border section has folded corners so as to be free of sharp edges.
21. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the border is attached to the peripheral edge of the substrate such that a sealed lip edge is formed around the periphery of the substrate and is defined by a folded section of the border.
22. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the border is attached to the peripheral edge of the substrate by a turn down hem stitch.
23. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the guide comprises indicia that is permanently bonded to the writing surface by a heat transfer printing process.
24. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the border section is attached to the peripheral edge of the substrate along a folded edge of the border such that any cleaning fluid that is present on the writing surface is contained within a perimeter of the border section.

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25. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein a rear face of each of the substrate and the border section includes a cloth mesh formed thereon to increase robustness and ease of cutability of the border section, respectively.
26. (Original) The kit of claim 13, wherein the guide is in the form of a coloring mask for placement on the writing surface, the mask including a number of openings formed therein that expose the writing surface when the mask is laid down on the writing surface to indicate locations where the writing medium is to be applied.
27. (Canceled)
28. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 13, wherein the border is attached to the peripheral edge of the substrate along a folded edge of the border such that any cleaning fluid that is present on the writing surface is contained within a perimeter of the border and is prevented from flowing between an interface between the folded border and the substrate; and
wherein indicia is formed on the border and has an associated theme which is also conveyed in the guide printed on the writing surface.
29. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 28, wherein the theme is selected from the group consisting of: education; music; sports; religious; corporate logo and board games.
30. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 28, wherein the article is one of a table cloth and a placemat.
31. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 28, wherein the guide is a recipe that offers instructions as to preparing food or drink.

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32. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 13, wherein dimensions of the foldable substrate and a location of the peripheral edge of the substrate are selected so that when the table cloth is placed on a table, the peripheral edge of the substrate is located proximate the edge of the table and the border drapes down over the edge of the table.
33. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 13, wherein the end plug comprises a canister that receives and holds the writing implement and a cover that is positioned across an open end of the canister and closes off the open end of the container.

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